trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 25, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended February 20 totaled an estimated 16.6 billion ton-miles, 10.2 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 8 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 123.4 billion ton-miles, 11.9 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended February 20 totaled 386,799 cars, 12.2 percent below 1981, but 1.9 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 14.9 percent in the East, 11.1 percent in the South, and 10.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down. Twelve of the groups were down from the preceding week of this year, although coal loadings showed an increase of 7.5 percent and grain was up 4.8 percent.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended February 13 totaled 36,872 cars, up 15.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 65,914 trailers and/or containers, 13.9 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first seven weeks of the year was 225,081 cars, 7.3 percent higher than last year, and 403,304 trailers and/or containers, up 6.4 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 2/20/82:

| | Loadings in Week ended February 20, 1982 | | Change from Corresponding Week 1981 | | | Change from Preceding Week | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Cars | | Cars | Percent | | Cars | Percent |
| Grain | 27,757 | D | 2,437 | 8.1 | I | 1,283 | 4.8 |
| Other farm products | 4,611 | I | 393 | 9.3 | I | 771 | 20.1 |
| Metallic ores | 19,862 | D | 5,085 | 20.4 | D | 1,384 | 6.5 |
| Coal | 119,559 | D | 6,686 | 5.3 | I | 8,327 | 7.5 |
| Crushed stone, gravel and sand | 8,204 | D | 2,198 | 21.1 | D | 427 | 4.9 |
| Nonmetallic minerals | 11,453 | D | 538 | 4.5 | I | 1,592 | 16.1 |
| Grain mill products | 13,618 | D | 2,587 | 16.0 | D | 644 | 4.5 |
| Food and kindred products | 14,414 | D | 2,047 | 12.4 | D | 740 | 4.9 |
| Primary forest products | 16,489 | D | 2,519 | 13.3 | D | 69 | 0.4 |
| Lumber and wood products except furniture | 5,493 | D | 3,236 | 37.1 | I | 98 | 1.8 |
| Pulp, paper and allied products | 17,377 | D | 3,097 | 15.1 | D | 286 | 1.6 |
| Chemicals and allied products | 23,497 | D | 4,171 | 15.1 | D | 571 | 2.4 |
| Petroleum products | 5,112 | D | 256 | 4.8 | I | 140 | 2.8 |
| Stone, clay and glass products | 9,649 | D | 3,909 | 28.8 | I | 60 | 0.6 |
| Coke | 5,016 | D | 1,178 | 19.0 | I | 317 | 6.7 |
| Metals and products | 10,540 | D | 6,845 | 39.4 | D | 92 | 0.9 |
| Motor vehicles and equipment | 14,138 | D | 3,137 | 18.2 | I | 885 | 6.7 |
| Waste and scrap materials | 9,224 | D | 3,866 | 29.5 | D | 94 | 1.0 |
| Forwarder and shipper association traffic | 9,040 | D | 596 | 6.2 | D | 245 | 2.6 |
| All other carloads | 41,571 | I | 409 | 1.0 | D | 1,724 | 4.0 |
| LCL traffic | 175 | D | 95 | 35.2 | D | 72 | 29.1 |
| Total Cars Loaded | 386,799 | D | 53,681 | 12.2 | I | 7,125 | 1.9 |
| Corresponding week of 1981 | 440,480 | | | | | | |

| | 1982 | 1981 | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total Cars Loaded (8 weeks) | 2,843,492 | 3,335,823 | D 14.8 |
| Estimated ~~revenue~~ ton-miles (in billions): | | | |
| 7 Weeks cumulative | 106.7 | 121.5 | D 12.1 |
| Week ended February 20 | 16.6 | 18.5 | D 10.2 |
| 8 Weeks cumulative | 123.4 | 140.0 | D 11.9 |

AARt-022582